

Message Text

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ACTION SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 DEAE-00
AID-05 IGA-02 /052 W
-----010358Z 119517 /66

P R 311205Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 640
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMCONSUL KARACHI

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BANGKOK FOR MCBEE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR, PK
SUBJ: JOINT EVALUATION OF NARCOTICS PROGRAM

REF: STATE 67053

1. EMBASSY LOOKS FORWARD TO VISIT OF NARCOTICS TEAM AND BELIEVES IT WILL PROVE VERY USEFUL.
2. WE HAVE SOME CONCERN, HOWEVER, OVER TIMING OF PROPOSED VISIT BECAUSE OF CONTINUED POLITICAL UNREST, VIOLENCE, AND UNCERTAINTIES IN PAKISTAN. ALTHOUGH NEW BHUTTO GOVERNMENT HAS NOW BEEN FORMED, WE DOUBT PNCB OR OTHER GOP AGENCIES CONCERNED WILL BE PREPARED BY MID-APRIL TO DISCUSS WITH US ANY NEW APPROACHES OR PROGRAMS. WE THINK THE BEST WE CAN EXPECT UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES IS FOR CONTINUATION, AND HOPEFULLY COMPLETION, OF THE JOINT USG-PNCB REASSESSMENT OF THE FIU PROGRAM AND AGREEMENT ON RESTRUCTURING THAT AID-FINANCED PROJECT.

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3. IN VIEW OF ABOVE, WE WONDER IF BEST PLAN WOULD NOT BE FOR WASHINGTON TEAM TO ARRIVE IN TWO SECTIONS. THOSE CONNECTED WITH FIU REASSESSMENT, WHOM WE BELIEVE ARE LIKELY TO BE NICHOLSEN, KATZ AND FOTOPOULOS, WOULD ARRIVE ON APRIL 11 TO HELP EMBASSY AND AID COMPLETE FIU REVIEW AND RESTRUCTURING. WE MENTION JUST THREE WASHINGTON PERSONS

BECAUSE WE FEAR IT WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE, AND RAISE
UNDUE GOP CONCERNS OVER OUR INTENTIONS, WERE MORE THAT THAT
NUMBER OF OFFICERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE JOINT DISCUSSIONS.

4. REST OF WASHINGTON TEAM, WHOM WE ASSUME ARE MOSTLY
CONCERNED WITH DISCUSSIONS OF FUTURE DIRECTIONS AND POSSIBLE
NEW INITIATIVES IN THE NARCOTICS PROGRAM MIGHT BEST ARRIVE
A WEEK LATER, SAY APRIL 18, AFTER FIU NEGOTIATION IS LARGELY
COMPLETED.

5. MISSION BELIEVES THERE IS LITTLE WE CAN DISCUSS ON
INCOME SUBSTITUTION PROJECTS UNTIL WE HAVE DATA BASE FOR
GO OR NO GO DECISION AND FOR PROJECT DESIGN. WE WILL BE
GLAD TO SHARE WITH YOU WHAT WE HAVE AND EXPERIENCE TO DATE
OF UN-FINANCED BUNEER PROJECT.

6. REGARDING LICENSED VEND SYSTEM, THIS IS IMPORTANT
ITEM IN MINDS OF CHAIRMAN OF PNCB AND MINISTRY OF HEALTH
OFFICIALS. THEY BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT IMMEDIATE CLOSURE
WOULD SIMPLY DRIVE ILLICIT DOMESTIC TRADE FROM SURFACE TO
DEEP UNDERGROUND. THIS MONTH, AS PILOT PROJECT, VENDS
IN ONE DISTRICT OF SIND ARE BEING CLOSED WITH GOVERNMENT
DISPENSARIES HANDLING MAINTENANCE PROGRAM. LATER GOP
PLANS TO USE GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS IN ANOTHER DISTRICT TO
DISPENSE OPIUM TO REGISTERED ADDICTS AND HAS CONSIDERED
USE OF VILLAGE POPULATION CONTROL OFFICIALS TO DISPENSE
LICIT OPIUM. PNCB CHAIRMAN HAS IGNORED OUR OFFERS TO
CONSIDER ANY REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN THIS AREA. HE
FEELS STRONGLY THAT PAKISTAN SHOULD MAKE THE FIRST EFFORT
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TO HANDLE THIS DOMESTIC PROBLEM ITSELF. MOST THAT HE HAS
ACCEPTED IS MINOR SURVEY AND PILOT REHABILITATION PORTIONS
OF UN BUNEER PROJECT.

7. IGA NARCOTICS INSPECTORS NOW EN ROUTE WASHINGTON
AND PLAN DISCUSS THEIR VIEWS WITH WASHINGTON AGENCIES.

8. PLEASE GIVE US YOUR REACTIONS TO OUR RECOMMENDATIONS.
BYROADE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 31-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ISLAMA03080
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770111-0656
Format: TEL
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977034/aaaaacsa.tel
Line Count: 106
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 47b2d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SNM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 67053
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3048360
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOINT EVALUATION OF NARCOTICS PROGRAM
TAGS: SNAR, OTRA, PK
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/47b2d4b4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009